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A fruit processing assembly separates grapes from stems. The assembly has a rotating drum with a series of projecting pins. The drum rotation is modified by especially a secondary periodic motion. The secondary motion is a swivel motion at right angles to the drum axis of rotation combined with parallel transposition. One end of the drum is linked to an eccentric swivel actuator (13).

Section 9. Concise Explanation of English Language Listed Information Items (OPTIONAL)

NOTE: "Applicants may, if they wish, provide a concise explanation of why English-language information is being submitted and how it is understood to be relevant. Concise explanations are helpful to the Office, particularly where documents are lengthy and complex and applicant is aware of a section that is highly relevant to patentability or where a large number of documents are submitted and applicant is aware that one or more are highly relevant to patentability." Notice of April 20, 1992 (1138 O.G. 37-41, 38). See also § 609, M.P.E.P., 8th Edition.

French Patent No. 2,795,599, issued to PELLENC SA on January 5, 2001, describes a harvesting machine fitted with a waste and leaves sorting apparatus. This apparatus is comprised of a screen that has mesh of variable sizes, the smaller mesh forming the superior carrying band allows only the juice to pass through and the larger mesh forming the inferior carrying band prevents the formation of any heap of berries between the two moving bands. The small and larger mesh are the same elements rotating between horizontal and vertical position.

French Patent No. 2,669,193, issued to EGRETIER JEAN MICHEL on May 22, 1992, discloses a machine for separating harvested grapes from their stalks and grading them, of the type essentially comprising a rotating cylindrical grid, with a horizontal or slightly inclined axis, capable of forming a sieve which allows the grapes which have been detached from the bunches to pass through it. A shaft, provided with radial spikes and known as a spiked wheel, rotates inside this cylindrical grid, the said radial spikes being short enough not to entrain the harvested grapes located at the bottom of the grid during their rotation. According to the invention, this grape-separating machine is characterized in that it consists of a plurality of deflectors which are inclined from the inlet towards the outlet of the cylindrical grid and are evenly distributed inside the said grid so as to form a second grid, concentric with the first, which is also driven in rotation and is of a size such that it is located between the first grid and the ends of the radial spikes of the spiked wheel and such that it does not allow the bunches of grapes to pass but leaves a space,

between the two grids, which allows the individual grapes detached from the bunches to circulate.

French Patent No. 2,516,745, issued to CALVET PIERRE on May 27, 1983, discloses a harvesting machine for the harvesting of grapes.

European Patent No. 1,264,549, issued to SOMAVI on December 11, 2002, teaches a locking device clamps the turbine blades to the rod ends, and is operated by a tool engaging e.g. a recess. Tool and recess are shaped such that the tool is able to reach it from the exterior of the drum, through one of its standard perforations. An Independent claim is included for the corresponding method of grape harvest separation. Preferred features: The recess in the locking bolt is located near the end of the flat blade. It is prismatic, especially hexagonal (an Allen socket). The locking component is a long bolt with recessed head. The blade includes a base fitting entering and fitting a bore in the free end of the rod. A conical expansion nut is drawn by the screwed end of the bolt into the base fitting, which has corresponding conical internal walls. A slot included between the internal and external surfaces of the base fitting, extends over a predetermined distance, starting at the free end of the fitting. In addition to the base, the blade also has a body with central bore extending from the bolt head recess to the rod bore. The blade is further detailed. All blades of the turbine are similarly-fixed to their individual rods. The rods carrying blades are tubular.

German Patent No. 203 10 936, issued to ARMBUSTER, HERMANN on September 18, 2003, discloses a fruit processing assembly separates grapes from stems. The assembly has a rotating drum with a series of projecting pins. The drum rotation is modified by especially a

secondary periodic motion. The secondary motion is a swivel motion at right angles to the drum axis of rotation combined with parallel transposition. One end of the drum is linked to an eccentric swivel actuator.